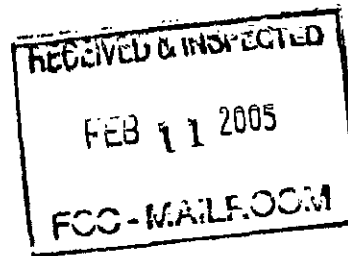


February 1, 2005

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Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554



RE: Supporting Comments – Sandwich Isles Communications, Inc.
Petition for Waiver of the Definition of “Study Area”, CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I would like to comment in support of the petition for waiver submitted by Sandwich Isles Communications, Inc. If you do not grant the waiver, you will be failing your responsibility to ensure that rural residents, like our family, are provided with affordable telephone service. In Hawaii, the need is greatest on Hawaiian Home Lands, as most of the lands set aside by Congress can only be described as “scrub” land with limited or no access to utility infrastructure that is readily available and/or stops in the populated areas of the state.

Only Sandwich Isles has taken their Hawaiian Home Lands license seriously and has dared to take on a service area that is costly to serve. Sandwich Isles should be commended for taking on the failings of others to ensure that all residents of Hawaiian Home Lands have access to affordable telephone service regardless of how far away they live from town. The best commendation you can provide is the granting of the waiver at your earliest opportunity. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cynthia L Chong
(Mrs. Pepper Chong)
Puukapu Pastoral Lot # 64

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Chong
PO BOX 1755
Kamuela, HI 96743